



[SIGN UP FOR E-UPDATES](#) | [VISIT MY WEBSITE](#) | [PRINTER FRIENDLY VERSION](#)

APRIL 2007 E-NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

[Tony Mendoza Hits the Ground Running in Sacramento](#)

[Tony's Fight Against Artery-Clogging Trans Fats](#)

[Tony Leads Effort to Get Fair Share of \\$3 Billion to Improve Area Schools](#)

[Mendoza Wants Ancient East Asian Hair Removal Method to Get Permanent Green Light in Image Conscious California](#)

[Mendoza Gets \\$5,000 Grant for Niemes Elementary Afterschool Program](#)

District Office:
12501 E. Imperial Highway
Suite 210
Norwalk, CA 90650
Tel: (562) 864-5600
Fax: (562) 863-7466

Capitol Office:
State Capitol

Tony Mendoza Hits the Ground Running in Sacramento



Your new Assemblymember, Tony Mendoza (D-Artesia) has only been in office for four months and already he is engaged in several high - profile state-wide efforts to improve food safety ([Trans fats" below](#)), and the quality of our children's education ([read "QEIA"](#)). On the local level, he is working to improve the business climate in our district ([check out "Threading"](#)) and bring needed funds to our area for important projects (please see [Niemes Elementary](#)).

Tony's Fight Against Artery-Clogging Trans Fats

Mendoza wrote a proposed law, AB 97, that, if passed, will make food safer and healthier in restaurants, school cafeterias, and grocery store delis by phasing out trans fats from foods sold in California by July 2009. Trans fats have been scientifically proven to be a leading cause of heart disease and diabetes. They are artificially created by injecting hydrogen into fat for the sole purpose of selling food that is no longer fresh. Trans fats solidify easier, making certain foods retain their shape and stay solid longer. But trans fats solidify in human arteries, too. They add to bad cholesterol while reducing the good cholesterol in your body. So trans fats threaten the health and welfare of Californians of all ages and are a major reason the cost of healthcare is rising.

But it doesn't have to be this way. Trans fats can be substituted by a wide array of healthier alternatives easily and cost effectively. States and municipalities throughout the United States are now taking action to phase out the use of this artificial heart-clogging substance. Many corporations like Kentucky Fried Chicken, Wendy's, Disney, Universal Studios and others are voluntarily banning trans fats from their restaurants. Mendoza's proposed legislation was approved by the Assembly Health Committee on March 6, 2007.

P.O. Box 942849
 Sacramento, CA
 94249-0056
 Tel: (916) 319-2056
 Fax: (916) 319-2156

Tony's proposed law is now headed for a vote of the full Assembly.

Tony Leads Effort to Get Fair Share of \$3 Billion to Improve Area Schools

Assemblymember Tony Mendoza, whose 56th District includes at least 11 schools classified as "low performing," is leading the charge to ensure that those schools apply for their fair share of the almost \$3 billion that is newly available from the "Quality Education Improvement Act." Mendoza hosted a phone workshop to help the eligible schools in his district apply for the funding. Experts from Strategic Education Services were available to answer educators' questions and provide support. Largely as a result of the workshop and Tony's outreach efforts, every eligible school in our area is applying.

Tony says, "this is an extraordinary opportunity to enhance the quality of education for students at the schools most in need of improvement. Forty percent of the schools that apply will receive millions of dollars over a seven year period to help challenged students improve. I am proud that our district has a 100% application rate."

The districts and their eligible schools include: ABC Unified- Artesia High; Fedde Middle Furgeson Elementary; and Melbourne Elementary; East Whittier City Elementary- Evergreen Elementary; Los Nietos Elementary- Aeolian Elementary; Norwalk-La Mirada Unified- Glenn High; Huerta Elementary; Norwalk High; Sanchez Elementary and Waite Middle.

The almost \$3 billion dollars is available because of a settlement agreement in a lawsuit between the California Teachers Association, et al. v. Arnold Schwarzenegger, et al. over Proposition 98 funding that was due to schools but had not been provided. Funds may be used to reduce class sizes, improve teacher and principal training, and hire additional school counselors.

Mendoza is a former school teacher who served as a representative to the California Teachers Association and the National Education Association.

Mendoza Wants Ancient East Asian Hair Removal Method to Get Permanent Green Light in Image Conscious California



Assemblymember Mendoza holds press conference in Little India (2/10/07) to announce the introduction of AB 265, the Hair Threading Bill.

Assemblymember Tony Mendoza, has authored another bill, AB 265, which, if passed, will permanently exempt practitioners of the ancient East Asian method of hair removal from needing permits in the state of California. Recently, the bill was heard in the Businesses and Professions Committee where Assemblymember Mendoza reluctantly accepted an amendment, by another assemblymember, that will postpone the final decision for one year so that studies can be made to ensure that

the use of scissors in the threading process is not harmful to the public. Assembly member Mendoza held a press conference at Sona Chaandi, a threading salon at 18307 Pioneer Blvd. in Artesia on Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007 to promote his bill. Mendoza's move follows other legislative bills, which he recommended to his predecessor, that deregulated threading on a trial basis four years ago. To date only five minor complaints have been received about threading salons in as many years.

"This is a great example of the strength of diversity," says Mendoza. "This ancient skill is chemical-free, pollutant free, long lasting, and very effective. As Hollywood and the rest of Southern California have come to learn about this method, small threading businesses in the Indo-American community are thriving. What's more, threading has become a way for more women, especially in the South Asian community, to gain economic viability." A majority of threading salons are owned and operated by immigrant women.



Threading is the removal of unwanted hair by using a special cotton thread. The process removes hair from its follicle by pulling and twisting a cotton thread along a row of unwanted hair. The practice of threading has existed for centuries and is a well established beauty practice in many countries, such as India and the Middle East. Proponents say threading is a simple, harmless, and natural method of removing hair. Threading is most commonly used to shape eyebrows and remove unwanted facial hair from women.

Mendoza Gets \$5,000 Grant for Niemes Elementary Afterschool Program



Assemblymember Tony Mendoza recently helped attain a \$5,000 Grant for Niemes Elementary School from the Barona Band of Mission Indians known as "California's Education Tribe." The grant is one of 15 awards provided throughout the state. Assemblymember Mendoza said, "I am pleased that we could help Niemes Elementary apply for this grant. The generous

donation of \$5,000 by the Barona Band of Mission Indians will be used to purchase materials and manuals for the Afterschool Tutoring program. When we help students succeed, we help create self-sufficient families of the future and therefore we boost our state's economic strength. Education is the key to healthy, productive and prosperous communities."

The innovative program is the first of its kind in California created and administered by an Indian Tribe. Through the endorsement of locally-elected state representatives, schools throughout California can apply for educational funding to purchase much-needed supplies and materials that promote academic improvement, including books, computers, and other educational materials. Each grant awarded by the Barona Education Grant Program is \$5,000.

Schools can apply once a year for a \$5,000 grant and only one grant will be awarded per state legislative district. The program will fund materials that promote academic improvement, including books, computers, and laptops. Awarded grants cannot be used for personnel, wages, sports equipment, athletic and recreational equipment, giveaway books, office furniture or supplies.